

**FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES – March 21, 2017**

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**In attendance:**

Nancy Guy	Doug Wiles	Christy Ames-Davis	Doug Prchal
Stan Churchill	Eric Dietrich	Amy Sakariassen	Mitch Becker
Carolyn Godfreed			

**Absent:**

Brett Gurholt	Brian Beattie
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The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Stan Churchill.

**Approval of the minutes from the January 17, 2017 regular meeting of the FAB:**

Stan called for approval of the minutes from the January 17, 2017 meeting of the FAB. Doug P moved to approve the minutes. Nancy Guy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Reminder – FAB Committee Chair Election at June Meeting:**

Doug reminded everyone that we will be voting for the new committee chair at the June 20, 2017 FAB meeting.

**New Member recruitment – replacement of position vacated by Nicole Schwehr:**

Doug decided to contact Dot Frank (BMHBA) to inquire about interest of joining FAB, and has not been able to reach her yet. Mitch suggested advertising for new members on the City's Facebook page.

**Arbor Day Update:**

Arbor Day is May 5, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at Sunrise Park. There will be around 108 Sunrise Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> graders participating. There will be a poster contest for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The deadline for the contest is April 12, 2017 and the posters will be judged on April 24, 2017. Donald DuFrame will be recognized for his 25 years of service as an arborist for the City Forestry. To date we have received \$1,250.00 sponsorship donations.

**Forestry Update:**

Doug stated forestry has been focusing on pruning over the last couple of months. The annual goal for total trees pruned is 3000. This includes contract work which will total between 500-600 trees. Forestry will be responsible for 2400-2500 trees pruned. Doug stated that considering the amount of snow removal work that forestry did during the month of January he feels production is very good. Forestry will stop pruning Elm trees the 1<sup>st</sup> week in April. Around the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April Forestry will begin Elmwood Survey. PSA's have already been sent to Bismarck's Public Information Officer.

**Special Assessment Discussion (Tree Planting/SIP):**

Forestry is looking into ways to include tree planting during Street Improvement Projects. Details are still being worked on to determine if this is feasible. Initial plans for this project are that these plantings will only occur in the boulevard of adjacent properties where improvements are already occurring. Plantings would be voluntary and not mandatory. There have been 1300 vacant planting locations identified in this year's SID (Street Improvement Districts). Plantings would be done by a contractor and not the Forestry Division. Estimated cost per tree is \$500.00. This would be assessed only to the property adjacent to where the tree planting took place. These fees would be assessed over 7 years. Property owners will receive a letter notifying them of this opportunity to have trees planted by a letter from the Forestry Division later in the summer. Planting would not occur until Spring 2018. Nancy Guy suggested mentioning PIP as an option in the notification letter due to the assessment cost. Doug will continue to work with engineering and finance to see if this type of project is an option.

**Cathedral District Project Update:**

Emily Sakariassen raised \$1,200.00 from the Cathedral District Project. The City Commission approved the funds to be held in Partners in Planting fund. Christy stated there are 34 tree planting spaces in the Cathedral District. Emily will be contacting residence in that area to see if they are interested in having trees planted. The forestry will volunteer their help in planting trees for this project. The Project is tentatively scheduled for May, which is preservation month.

**Committee Reports:**

None

**Other Agenda Items:**

None

There was nothing further to report and the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.